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birds named for states. Thus a glance through the checklist shows thirteen species referred substantively to California, while five are modified by Californian. Similarly we find Canada Jay and Canadian Warbler. These names are inconsistent somewhere and one form of name should used be throughout. Certainly either Canada Grouse or Canadian Ruffed Grouse should be changed.

Just one more point and I will close. In spite of our checklist, which is supposed to regulate the use of names, there is a growing disregard of the A. O. U. trivial names. In some cases older names are used and in others new names are coined. Sierra Junco for Thurbur's Junco, Valley Quail for Valley Partridge, Turkey Buzzard for Turkey Vulture are examples from recent publications. I cannot do better than to quote a paragraph from Dr. Merriam's letter as clearly stating my own feeling in the matter:

"Your inquiry with respect to the A. O. U. tendency in common names gives me an opportunity to state that I place no weight whatever on the fact of the adoption or rejection of a particular name, or form of name, among the common names of birds as used in the A. O. U. checklist. In other words, my position is and has always been that the A. O. U. ruling on points of scientific nomenclature should carry great weight, but that in matters of common English names of species every man is at liberty to use whatever name he pleases. Whatever one's views may be on this matter, the fact remains that so large a number of writers do use common names different from those in the Code that it is absolutely necessary in many cases to give the scientific name if the record is of any value."

Respectfully,

RICHARD C. MCGREGOR.

*San Francisco, Feb. 7, 1901.*

#### PARASITES IN BIRDS.

EDITOR THE CONDOR:—In Vol. II, page 91 of THE CONDOR I note a communication regarding tapeworms in young mountain quail, and in Vol. III, page 15 a communication on further tapeworm observations. Let me say that these observations are not unique; so far as statistics are to hand quail are moderately frequently infected in various parts of the world. The most accurate statistics at hand, in a recent paper on the parasites of birds in the Rhine provinces, Germany and Switzerland shows that out of six hundred thirty (630) birds examined only one hundred eighty (180) or 28 per cent were free from parasites, while 231 or 35 per cent harbored tapeworms in varying numbers. Other authorities state that

in Europe the true partridges are infected in six out of seven cases, or in eight out of eleven cases. The same is true of allied species. It may positively be said that these species are not dangerous to man further than that, if present in sufficient numbers, they are detrimental to the general health of the bird. In various parts of France and Germany, tapeworm epidemics among game birds have frequently been noted. I have, however, a somewhat extensive summary of the results of these studies which will appear in the present number of the Proceedings of the Nebraska Ornithologists' Union. To this will be added the records of collections made here from various kinds of birds and by many observers.

I will be glad to identify species for your correspondents, if they will send me specimens. It is not always possible to give an accurate identification from a single specimen where the species is imperfectly known, and it is necessary that the tapeworm should have both head and ripe segments. Specimens may be sent in alcohol preferably after preservation in corrosive sublimate mixture, or in 5 per cent solution of formol into which the parasites may be put immediately after removal from the host. The accumulation of data regarding these forms is of great scientific and economic importance. I shall gladly avail myself of all the help which your correspondents may be able to give.

Very truly yours,

HENRY B. WARD.

*University of Nebraska, Lincoln, Nebr.*



#### Publications Reviewed

LAWS REGULATING THE TRANSPORTATION AND SALE OF GAME. By T. S. Palmer and H. W. Olds. Bulletin No. 14, Biological Survey pp. 88 and table of closed seasons.

This publication is by far the most complete and practical compendium of game laws yet given the public, covering as it does all the statutes now in effect, including federal, state, or in many instances county laws. Full information concerning market hunting, shipment of game, transportation of live game for propagation, close seasons and numerous other points of importance are dealt with at length, accompanied by numerous tables and maps in detail. It is impossible to review at length such a valuable addition to our knowledge of the game laws, and we advise the reader to procure a copy of this publication and to keep it where it may be consulted freely. By this means will each individual appreciate the vast amount of compilation necessary to produce such a complete digest as well as the amount of solid information it contains.—C. B.